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**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yoshiyuki ITO

Application No.: 10/808,334

Filed: March 25, 2004

For: SHEET FEED CASSETTE



Group Art Unit: 3653

Examiner: M. KOHNER

Docket No.: 119070

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the November 14, 2006 Office Action, reconsideration of the rejection and objections is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiners indication that claims 4, 5, 14 and 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. However, Applicants submit that the pending claims are allowable for the following reasons.

Claims 1-3, 6-12 and 16-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Published Patent Application No. JP-A-05-20155 to Inoue. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Inoue does not disclose a "slide member," as recited in claims 1 and 19. Inoue describes a resin plate 36 that comprises a spigot leg 36b that is lockable in an engagement hole 31 (see paragraphs [0017] - [0018] of Inoue, translation attached). The Office Action erroneously interprets Figure 1 of Inoue to disclose a slide member.

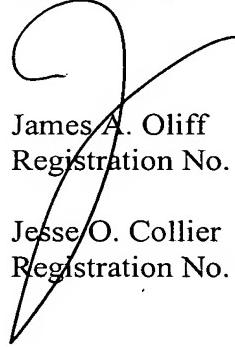
However, because the spigot leg 36b of Inoue fits into an engagement hole 31, spigot leg 36b does not slide. Thus, spigot leg 36b cannot be considered a sliding member.

Because Inoue fails to disclose a sliding member, claims 1 and 19 are patentable over Inoue. Further, claims 2, 3, 6-12, 16-18, and 20 are patentable for at least the reasons that claims 1 and 19 are patentable, as well as for the additional features they recite.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-20 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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JAO:LXF/tjx

Date: December 28, 2006

Attachment:

Computer Generated Translation of JP-A-05-201555.

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